

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/600,297

Examiner

John Chavis

Applicant(s)

RICHARDSON ET AL.

Art Unit

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS:** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to papers filed 6/11/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 9-25, 27-33, and 35-41, now renumbered as claims 1-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.
7. ☒ The drawings submitted on 9/2/03 and 6/20/03 have been approved by the examiner.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher Holt on 9/28/07. The claims are amended as follows:

Claims 8, 26 and 34 are cancelled in view of the amendment below:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for providing information to an automatic machine translation system to improve translation accuracy, the method comprising:

receiving a collection of source text that is expressed in a first natural language;

receiving from the automatic machine translation system an attempted translation that corresponds to the collection of source text, wherein the attempted translation is expressed in a natural language other than the first natural language;

processing the attempted translation and the collection of source text to identify an error in the attempted translation; and

providing information to the automatic machine translation system to reduce the likelihood that the error will be repeated in subsequent natural language translations generated by the automatic machine translation system[.] .

wherein providing information comprises providing information to be assimilated into the automatic machine translation system.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for improving the performance of an automatic machine translation system, the method comprising:

employing the automatic machine translation system to generate a translation of a collection of source text, wherein the collection of source text is expressed in a first natural language and the translation is expressed in a natural language other than the first natural language;

transferring the collection of source text and at least a portion of the translation to a reliable modification source;

receiving from the reliable modification source an indication of an error in at least one portion of the translation; and

training the automatic machine translation system such that the error will be less likely to occur for subsequent translations generated by the automatic translation system[.]

wherein training the automatic machine translation system comprises updating a collection of parsing information associated with the automatic machine translation system, the parsing information being information that enables a parser to provide analysis of a collection of segments.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the performance of an automatic machine translation system, the method comprising:

employing the automatic machine translation system to generate a translation of a collection of source text, a confidence metric being associated with portions of the translation, and wherein the collection of source text is expressed in a first natural language and the translation is expressed in a natural language other than the first natural language;

evaluating the confidence metric and selecting a low confidence portion of the translation;

transmitting the low confidence portion across a computer network to a reliable modification source;

Art Unit: 2193

utilizing the reliable modification source to generate a corrected version of the low confidence portion;

generating an updated database of translation knowledge based on the corrected version of the low confidence portion;

transmitting the updated database of translation knowledge across a computer network to the automatic machine translation system; and

incorporating the updated database of translation knowledge into the automatic machine translation system to enable the automatic machine translation system to subsequently translate with greater accuracy text similar to the low confidence portion[.]₁

wherein incorporating the database of translation knowledge comprises incorporating at least one updated linguistic structure.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior art reference of record is considered the patents to King (6,279,969), Eisele (7,054,803), and the reference to D'Agostini et al. (WO 02/054280) ; however, neither reference is considered to teach the features previously disclosed claims 8, 26 or 34 (now incorporated in the independent claims).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2193

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Chavis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3720. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:00am-5:30pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Chavis'.

John Chavis
Primary Examiner AU-2193